1991 to 31.5 in 1994 as per SRS estimates.

These projects are being regularly monitored at the national level to ensure their effectiv implementation.

Out break of Castro-enteritis in Delhi

2555. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Tribune dated the 20th June, 1997 under the caption, "Gastro-enteritis grips Delhi";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and

(c) what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to cope up with the problem being faced in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news report talks about out-break; of water-borne diseases in Delhi. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have informed that the number of reported Gastro-enteritis/cholera cases have shown a declining trend over the last 3 years. Therefore, it cannot be said that Gastro-enteritis has gripped Delhi.

(c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have chalked out a detailed action plan for treatment and prevention of seasonal diseases including gastro enteritis. Setting up of Oral Rehydration Therapy Centres in the Out Patient Department of all dispensaries and hospitals is the main component of the Action Plan for providing treatment to the patients. The Action Plan also include surveillance and monitoring, supply of Oral Rehydration Salts, adequate supply of potable water, distribution of Chlorine tablets, environmental sanitation, food hygience, health education etc.

Noise pollution as health hazard

2556. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether noise pollution is posing health hazards, as revealed by a recent study by the Indian Medical Association;

(b) if so, the measures taken to prevent noise impurities and

(c) the steps proposed to propagate health education in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Government is not aware of any study on noise pollution conducted by the Indian Medical Association. However, studies carried out by the National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad have indicated that high levels of noise pollution can cause temporary or permanent hearing impairment and psychobehavioural problems.

(b) and (c) Steps taken by the Government to prevent noise pollution and increase public awareness are enumerated in the statement given below

Statement

Steps taken by the Government

Noise has been notified as a pollutant under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1991. Ambient standards in respect of sound for the different categories of areas (residential, commercial, industrial and silence zones) have been notified

under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Noise limits have been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipments at the manufacturing state.

A code of practice for controlling noise at source, other than industries and automobiles, has been evolved by the Central Pollution Control Board. These include Public Address System, Aircraft Operations, Railway Operations, construction activities and bursting of crackers. State Government have been asked to employ these code of practices under the relevant local rules.

Shortage of skilled gynaeconogists in rural areas of Maharashtra

2557. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an acute shortage of skilled gynaecologists in the rural areas of Maharashtra, particularly in its Vidarbha region, to provide much desired medical help in cases of Vagio Vascular Fistula (VVF) and reproductive treact infections, STD and maternity services to the rural women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to make once-a-week visit by skilled gynaecologists to each village of the State compulsory to provide medical help to poor rural women folk of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information available from tsate of Maharashtra there are 18 Gynaecologists working in the Vidarbha region.

(c) and (d) At present there is no such proposal or scheme to make once a week visit by skilled Gynaecologists to each village of the State. However, the Central Government is considering a proposal that lady doctors from the private sector can be engaged by the State Government on part-time basis in the rural areas wherever the State Governments consider it necessary.

देश में रक्त की कमी

2558. श्री अजीत जोगी : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में, विशेषकर राजधानी में, रक्त की भारी कमी है और रैडक्रास द्वारा रक्तदाताओं को प्रोत्साहित करने की सख्त आवश्यकता है ;

(ख) क्या अधिकांश रक्तदाता समाज के बेरोजगार, अनपढ़ और गरीब वर्गों के हैं जो अपनी जीविका हेतु अपना रक्त बेचते हैं ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार जन-संचार के माध्यमों से नौजवानों, हृष्ट-पुष्ट तथा धनी व्यक्तियों को रक्तदान के लिए आगे आने हेतु प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए कोई कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ताकि गरीब लोगों को बार-बार रक्त देने से रोका जा सके ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में बनाई गई योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी) : (क) देश में, विशेषतौर से दिल्ली में रक्त की किसी तीव्र कमी की सूचना नहीं दी गई है ।

31 दिसम्बर, 1997 से पहले व्यावसायिक रूप से रक्त दान की समाप्त